

Docket No.: TOW-067
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazuhito MATSUDA *et al.*

Application No.: NEW APPLICATION

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: FUEL GAS PRODUCTION APPARATUS
AND FUEL CELL SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

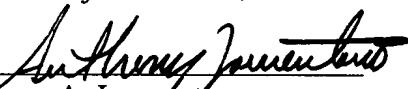
While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this submission. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. TOW-067 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	NEW APPLICATION
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Kazuhito MATSUDA
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	TOW-067

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
A1	JP-05-253436	10-05-1993	Mitsui Eng & Shipbuild Co Ltd		Abs
A2	JP-07-187606	07-25-1995	Toyo Eng Corp		Abs
A3	JP-08-225302	09-03-1996	Mitsubishi Kakoki Kaisha Ltd		Abs
A4	JP-2000-313605	11-14-2000	Tokyo Gas Co Ltd, Tokyo Gas Chemicals Co Ltd, Mitsubishi Kakoki Kaisha Ltd		Abs
A5	JP-2002-068708	03-08-2002	Fuji Electric Co. Ltd, Osaka Gas Co. Ltd.		Abs

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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